

Ms. NORTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

AMERICANS WANT TO BE RESCUED NOW

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, with final passage of President Biden's American Rescue Plan expected tomorrow, the priorities I pressed for, including \$1,400 in direct payments per person and \$26 billion in rental assistance makes the Rescue Plan live up to its name.

The rescue extends to the District of Columbia, which retrieves \$755 million taken from the District when Republicans treated the District as a territory in the CARES Act. Instead, the new bill treats D.C. as a State as usual because D.C. residents pay full Federal taxes, and it funds D.C. for city, State, and county levels because D.C. provides services at all three levels.

This bill resisted the Republican plan for less money because the American people want to be rescued now, not later. The American Rescue Plan Act will hasten doing our business together again on this House floor and getting the American people back to business and to school.

CONGRESS IS MAKING PROGRESS

(Mr. POSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, over the past 10 years we have made a lot of progress in making Congress more transparent and accountable.

After years of persistence, I was pleased to see that the House finally adopted the comparative text rule that I proposed.

The comparative text rule made it possible for Members of the House and the public to actually see and understand exactly what a bill changes.

Every legislature in the country does that. But sadly, boom, in an instant this year the House abolished that rule, even though it was a top priority with the bipartisan Government Efficiency, Accountability, and Reform Task Force for commonsense solutions to a better government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that is shameful.

HELP IS ON THE WAY

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, the COVID pandemic and economic crisis are destroying the lives and livelihoods of tens of millions of Americans across the country. And our most vulnerable communities are bearing the brunt.

Thankfully, help is on the way. The American Rescue Plan will save lives and livelihoods by putting vaccines in arms, putting children safely back in school, putting money in people's pockets, and finally putting people back in jobs.

I am proud to note the inclusion of provisions in this bill for the Virgin Islands and other territories that we all in this House have been fighting for. This plan creates equality in the child tax credit, the earned income tax credit, including an advancement of the child tax credit in 2021.

The child tax credit provision in the bill will be transformational in the lives of hundreds and millions of children, lifting them out of poverty. This is generational change. This will reduce poverty and improve the economic standing of Americans throughout our country. We are grateful for this bill.

THE MARS ROVER IS AN INCREDIBLE MARVEL

(Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago our country witnessed the incredible marvel of American ingenuity when NASA successfully landed its Perseverance rover on Mars, laying the groundwork for the next generation of space travel and exploration.

Perseverance has four primary goals: determine whether life ever existed on Mars, understand the climate of the planet, characterize the geology of Mars, and finally, make any preparations necessary for human exploration. These goals are crucial not only for our Nation's eventual mission to send humans to Mars, but also for the continued advancement of mankind as a whole.

Before making its journey to the red planet, Perseverance spent some time in my backyard in northeast Ohio. It was researchers and scientists at Cleveland's NASA Glenn Research Center that developed the rover's power source and oversaw testing the rover's parachute needed to land safely on Mars.

Mars truly is the next frontier in space travel and exploration. I am incredibly grateful that northeast Ohio has added yet another chapter to our State's already rich history in space travel and exploration.

I look forward to what Perseverance can teach us about this new unknown and what our next endeavor will be.

RECOGNIZING THE GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF WOMEN

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today is International Women's Day, a day to recognize the great accomplishments of women and the great possibilities that lie ahead.

During the course of the day we will be having some recognitions. But one very important one is that: As we speak here now, on the Senate side, they are finishing up the engrossment of the American Rescue Plan.

This plan, as my distinguished colleague from the Virgin Islands pointed out, does so many great things for America's children, America's families, and America's women. If you are a caregiver, whether for a child or a senior or whatever, childcare is substantially supported in this legislation.

If you are a teacher, schools will be able to be open more safely with increased funding to do so with ventilation, separation, and the rest to have our children and teachers return safely as well.

The child tax credit and the refundable child tax credit, the earned income tax credit—as was mentioned by the distinguished chairwoman on the Ways and Means Committee, which was largely responsible, along with ROSA DELAUNO, RICHIE NEAL and MIKE THOMPSON in getting all this done—the point is, we will be having a further discussion about this bill as we move forward to its passage in the next 24, 48 hours.

It is important to acknowledge on International Women's Day the connection between the advancement of women, the recognition of the contributions of women, and the needs that are met in the American Rescue Plan.

As President Biden said, help is on the way. That promise is kept in this legislation to all Americans. I wanted to acknowledge specifically the women of America.

VETERANS NEED VACCINES

(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I join Madam Speaker in celebrating International Women's Day.

Today, I rise in support of the VA VACCINES Act. This is a bipartisan bill that will expand the VA's ability to provide COVID-19 vaccines to all veterans and their caregivers, regardless of whether or not they are enrolled in the VA healthcare system.

Mr. Speaker, the VA should not turn away any veteran who wants this life-saving vaccine. You know, where I live in Florida—and I am sure it is like this in most places—it is still like playing the lottery to get a vaccine.

This vaccine is free to all Americans and is paid for by our tax dollars. So, in my opinion, Mr. Speaker, for our veterans who have selflessly served our

country, we should honor their service with easy access to lifesaving COVID-19 vaccines. In my view, there are no people more deserving.

EQUALITY ACT DESTROYS WOMEN'S RIGHTS

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on International Women's Day, I would like to discuss the Equality Act.

The Equality Act has completely destroyed women's rights. It has taken away women's rights in sports. It has completely canceled women, and I think it is a terrible thing that has happened to the women in America who have come so far.

Our grandmothers and mothers worked so hard to achieve our rights, and now with the passage of the Equality Act, they have put men in our little girls' bathrooms, sports locker rooms, playing fields, and seem to care less about women's rights whatsoever.

They have also completely destroyed religious freedoms and violated our freedoms and rights in every single way.

The Equality Act is atrocious and evil. It completely erases gender. God created us male and female in His image. He created us.

Women deserve their rights. We deserve our sports. We deserve our privacy and should not have the invasion of biological men in any of these areas.

□ 1415

RECOGNIZING JEANNETTE RANKIN ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

(Mr. ROSENDALE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on this international day of women, I remind everyone that the first Member of this body who was a woman was Jeannette Rankin.

She was elected from the State of Montana in 1916 and again in 1940. She served us well; she served us admirably.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to remind everyone that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle do not have a monopoly on having women represent them.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KAHELE) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 8, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II

of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 8, 2021, at 9:10 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 164.

That the Senate passed S. 578.

That the Senate passed S. 579.

That the Senate passed S. 590.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1445

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BEYER) at 2 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MCBATH) at 4 p.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 842, PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8, BIPARTISAN BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1446, ENHANCED BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 188 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 188

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 842) to amend the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order

against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 2 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. After debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 8) to require a background check for every firearm sale. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 5 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 6 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 5. After debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 6 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 6. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on the Judiciary or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part C of the report of the